

**Abstract**

A fuel cell pack having a fuel tank, a smart controller, and a fuel cell provides electrical power and operational data pertaining to the fuel cell pack to a host processor. The fuel cell pack and the host processor control the operation of the fuel cell. Control of the fuel cell includes starting and shutting down the fuel cell, and metering the amount of fuel provided to the fuel cell. Operational data is provided to the fuel cell via an I<sub>2</sub>C bus formatted in compliance with industry standard specifications such as the Smart Battery Specification and the Advanced Configuration and Power Interface (ACPI) Specification.